BLUE · NETWORK · COMPANY

B-CPRO-7

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

543

PROGRAM TITLE SUSTAINING

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1943

DAY & DATE 11:30-12:00 NOON CWT BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS	CAST
rry	Johnny Larkin
ss	Lucile Husting
n	Katherine Card
son	Harvey Hays
ney	Leo Curley
	Dick Turner

SOUND	REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:
This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: Through forestry, as practiced by Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers, trees are not just an end in themselves. Their real function is to add continuously to the per permanent welfare of individuals, families, and communities. This is the real purpose of public conservation policies; this is the objective toward which the Forest Rangers are directing ever-increasing efforts - the permanent welfare of our people and our Nation. And such welfare sometimes goes beyond a value of dollars and cents. Our trees and forests often can contribute to moral and spiritual values as well as to economic welfare...Now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station for a look-in on our friends Ranger Jim Robbins and his wife, Bess, and assistant ranger Jerry Quick.a And here's Jerry's sweetheart, too...the schoolteacher, Mary Halloway, who seems to have just come up with some disturbing news. Here they are:

JERRY: (FADING IN) What gets me, Jim, is that Mary won't even listen to reason. Shucks, she acts like she's anxious to get away from Winding Creek. So she can get away from me, I s'pose.

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MARY: (HOTLY) That's not true, Jerry..You know that's not true, don't you, Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Of course, child. And Jerry knows it, too. Now stop bickering, both of you, and let's consider this thing sensibly.

JIM: Good idea, Bess.....I haven't had a chance to get straight on all this yet. As I understand it you've been offered a summer job in a war plant down in Elk City, is that right, Mary?

JERRY: Offered a job! Shucks, she asked for it.

BESS: Jerry, please!

JERRY: Okay, okay.

MARY: Yes, I applied for the job, Mr. Robbins, as Jerry says, And my application has been approved and I've got to let them know right away whether or not I'm going to accept and when I can report for work.

JIM: I see. Then It's all settled. Well, we'll miss you, Mary, all of us.

BESS: Jim Robbins, you don't see at all. Of course, it isn't settled. If it were we wouldn't be talking about it like this.

JIM: Is that right, Mary? What Bess says?

MARY: Yes, Mr. Robbins. You see, I...well, it's not going to be easy to leave here, even just for the summer. The only thing I'm certain about is that I ought to be doing some kind of useful war work now that school's over. I can't just stay around here and do nothing all summer.

MARY: (NOTHING) That's not true, Jerry. You know that's not true, don't you, Mrs. Robbins?

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JERRY: Well why don't you find something here around Winding Creek, if that's the way you feel about it.

MARY: But I've tried, Jerry. You know I have. And the jobs that are open that I could do...well, they're just not as important as the work I could do in Elk City.

JIM: What's the job they've got for you down there, Mary?

MARY: It's sort of supervisor of the young girls they have employed in the plant..acting as, well, advisor and maybe director of social activities.and the like. It's right in line with my teaching experience, you see.

JERRY: Humpf...that sure sounds important all right...playing Mirandy from Persimmon Holler to a bunch of young jitterbugs, huh?

MARY: That's not a bit funny, Jerry. It <u>is</u> important, these days, to help young folks get the right kind of guidance and keep their morale up and all, when they're working under such pressure. And if I felt I could do as good a job giving advice as Mirandy does I wouldn't hesitate a bit.

JIM: You're right, Mary. It's mighty important to keep our youngsters on the right track these days, with the world spinning around so fast even us old people have a hard job keeping up with it...And say, by George, that gives me an idea...

BESS: Oh, Jim..you've thought of something that might keep Mary here with us this summer?

JERRY: Well why don't you find something here around Winding Creek, if that's the way you feel about it.

MARY: But I've tried, Jerry. You know I have. And the jobs that are open that I could do...well, they're just not as important as the work I could do in Elk City.

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JIM: You're right, Mary. It's mighty important to keep our youngsters on the right track these days, with the world spinning around so fast even us old people have a hard job keeping up with it...And say, by George, that gives me an idea...

REBA: Oh, Jim..you've thought of something that might keep Mary here with us this summer?

JIM: Maybe. I gotta do some investigating first.

MARY: I'm afraid there's not much time, Mr. Robbins. I feel that I ought to let those people in Elk City know today what I intend to do.

JERRY: See? Just what I've been telling you. Mary doesn't want to stay on here. She want to go to Elk City. It doesn't matter to her that I might be called up this summer and that we could be together until then. No, that doesn't matter.

JIM: Aw, stop feeling so sorry for yourself, Jerry. You gotta hand it to Mary for wanting to get in and pitch.

BESS: What's this plan of yours, Jim? Do you know of something she could do here?

JIM: We'll see, Bess....Look, I want you all to head down to Bill Mason's office right way.

JERRY: Judge Mason, the lawyer?

JIM: That's right, the judge is sorta holding juvenile court today.

BESS: Good Heavens! What does a little town like Winding Creek need a juvenile court for?

MARY: You're not serious, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Dead serious, Mary. Now, get going, all of you. I'll meet you in Bill Mason's office.

JERRY: Hey, where <u>you</u> going, Jim?

JIM: I've got a few calls to make...kinda important calls, considering there's more fronts than the battle front (FADE) in a war.

PAUSE

FADE IN BUZZ OF VOICES

BESS: (SOTTO) Why, it's a regular court session he's holding.

JERRY: (SOTTO) Well, it's a little more informal that the usual court, I'd say. But there's the Town Marshall just the same and that young lady must be the court stenographer.

BESS: (SOTTO) I wish Jim would get here. All this makes me nervous...

MARY: (SOTTO) I don't understand it at all. Those youngsters sitting there alongside the Marshall...some of them are in my classes in school. There's Bobby Goodson and Tommy Jenkins and (SOUND OF GAVEL, NOISE OUT) oh, Mr. Mason's going to speak.

MASON: (KINDLY) Tommy Jenkins..Is Tommy Jenkins here, Marshall?

TOMMY: (TREMULOUS) I'm here, sir, I'm Tommy Jenkins.

MARY: (SOTTO) This is terrible, Tommy's one of my best pupils...

MASON: Tommy, I want you to speak right up, son, and answer the questions I'm going to ask you.

TOMMY: Yes, sir.

MASON: Tommy, yesterday you were caught in the act of taking property that didn't belong to you. Is that right?

TOMMY: I ain't got nothin' to say, sir.

MASON: You were caught with an armful of corn in Mrs. Mitchell's Victory Garden. But you weren't alone in that garden, Tommy. Who were those other boys who were with you and got away?

TOMMY: I ain't got nothin' to say, sir.

MASON: You've got to answer my questions, Tommy. I've got to know....

MARY: (BREAKING IN) Mr. Mason..Mr. Mason..

TOMMY: Gee, it's Miss Halloway.

MARY: This is probably very improper of me but may I please talk to Tommy? He's one of my pupils and....

MASON: Of course, Miss Halloway. These are very informal proceedings. We're only trying to correct here what's turned out to be a very startling series of juvenile delinquency cases for our small community. Go right ahead.

MARY: Thank you, sir...Tommy, you mustn't be afraid now.

TOMMY: No, ma'am. I ain't afraid...if <u>you're</u> here...

MARY: Then suppose you tell me what this is all about, Tommy, will you?

TOMMY: Yes, ma'am. What do you want me to tell?

MARY: What you're doing here and why you got into trouble this way and where your Mother is. I know your Daddy's in the army. Go on, Tommy, please tell me.

TOMMY: Well, gosh, Miss Halloway, us kids have been goin' nuts since school let out, finding things to do. Mom's working in Al Perkins' mill, see, and she couldn't be here. But anyway I never thought snitching corn outa a garden was so awful bad.

MASON: You see, Miss Halloway? This is the sort of thing we're facing here in Winding Creek, and I guess this community isn't the only one. Before you came this morning I'd heard cases of candy stealing, malicious window breaking, and general rowdyism. In every instance the youngsters explained they didn't think they were doing anything so bad..But it adds up and I'm afraid, for many of these kids, all this may just be the beginning. We've got to stop it before it gets even more serious.

MARY: There might be a question of preventing these misdemeanors to begin with, don't you think, Mr. Mason... Now, shall I go ahead with Tommy?

MASON: Yes, of course. We wantto get the whole story.

MARY: Tommy, I wish you'd tell me just what made you go into Mrs. Mitchell's garden after that corn. Think carefully now before you speak.

BESS: (SOTTO) Jerry, that boy's mother ought to be here. All those things Mr. Mason told about, I think they're dreadful.

JERRY: (SOTTO) Well, if you ask me, I'd say a few good lickings would beat this crazy stuff outa those kids.

MARY: Well, Tommy?

TOMMY: It's like I said, Miss Halloway. With Dad away and Mom workin' all day it's kinda...I dunno....it's kinda lonesome, I guess. All us kids, we've been kinda hangin' around lookin' for something to do...Yesterday mornin' the gang..we gotta a swell little gang, Miss Halloway...

MARY: Go on, Tommy.

TOMMY: We decided all of a sudden that it'd be fun to have a corn roast somewhere. So we went lookin' around and Mrs. Mitchell had about the best corn of anybody, so...well, we went in her garden and took some. That's all... (PROUDLY) The rest of the gang got away and I'm not goin' to tell, Miss Halloway, not even for you...we all promised we'd never snitch on each other...

MARY: I understand, Tommy. But Tommy, as Mr. Mason says, this is a very serious thing you've done and...

MASON: I think it's <u>so</u> serious, Miss Halloway, that I feel impelled to make an example of Tommy. Talk of preventing this sort of thing to begin with is fine enough, but since we've got it with us already I have no recourse but to.....

JIM: (COMING O) Hold on a minute, Bill...Can I say something?

MASON: Jim, you're interrupting at a pretty awkward time. I was about to pass on young Jenkins here and....

JIM: I'm sorry, Bill, but I'm hopin' you'll wait just a bit on that, I don't think you'll regret it. Just give me a few minutes, will you?

MASON: Okay, Jim....Marshall, suppose you take the boys outside 'til I call you.

SOUND OF SHUFFLING FEET, THEN OUT

BESS: I'm so glad you got here, Jim..Where have you been?

JIM: Tell you in a minute, Bess.

MASON: All right, Jim. Go ahead.

JIM: Bill, I got here just in time to watch Mary in action with that youngster. She does a pretty good job with kids, wouldn't you say?

MASON: Yeah, she seems to gain their confidence all right, but what's that got to do with my carrying on the functions of this court?

JIM: I'm coming to that.

MARY: Mr. Robbins, I think I know what you have in mind. But if you think I'll stay on here in Winding Creek to assist in running a juvenile court, you're...well, I refuse to do it.

JERRY: Yeah, Jim. I'd say what we need now is somebody to give those kids some good thrashings. That'll keep these wild kids in line.

MARY: Oh, Jerry, that's not it at all. These youngsters are not altogether responsible for their misdoings. The problem goes deeper than that.

MASON: I'm inclined to agree with you in that, Miss Halloway. This thing is part of the war. As young Tommy himself brought out, he and his friends have been footloose ever since school stopped because their parents are so busy with war jobs these days. As I see it, we've got to take some stern measures, and dispense proper justice when they do wrong.

BESS: But as Mary says, there ought to be some way to help look after these youngsters, so that they can be kept from doing wrong to begin with.

MARY: That's right, Mrs. Robbins, Don't you see, Mr. Mason? We don't need a juvenile court here in Winding Creek. We need organized supervision for our children... organized play in organized recreational areas directed by some qualified person and....oh, dear....

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Now you understand, don't you, Mary?

MARY: (LAUGHING) Yes, I'm afraid,I do, Mr. Robbins.

MASON: (SERIOUS) Well, I don't, Jim. All this sounds fine enough but I've got to go ahead with these delinquency cases. We've got no organized supervision here in Winding Creek, no organized playgrounds, no...

JIM: That's just it, Bill. We do have playgrounds, about as fine as anyone could ask for..Our recreation areas in the Pine Cone National Forest, they're available any time you want to use 'em. Our National Forests are for public service, you know.

JERRY: Say, that's right. We've got some swell recreation areas on the Pine Cone....And if anybody's qualified to direct children's activities I'd say Mary here fits the bill to a T.

BESS: Of course she would. That would be just the kind of work you were going to do in Elk City, Mary, and I'd say it's even more necessary right here from what I've seen and heard this morning.

MASON: H-m-m, Say, that's a jim-dandy idea allright, and look, I'd be willing to turn these kids loose in your care, Miss Halloway - every last one of 'em - if we can make the plan work.

JERRY: Why won't it work?

MASON: Well, how are we going to pay Miss Halloway's salary and buy equipment and all? We don't have any fund for that sort of thing.

JIM: It's all taken care of, Bill.

BESS: Jim, that's splendid. Tell us.

JIM: Well, Al Perkins, he's got a lot of the town women workin' in his mill, see? Well, Al along with some of the other employers of women in town, they've just agreed to set up a salary fund for Mary here so that the town kids can be provided with supervised pla during the vacation period.

MASON: By George, that sounds good, Jim.

JIM: And the school board's agreed to turn loose some of its school equipment -- baseballs and games and all -- for the summer....Well, how about it, Mary?

MARY: Oh, it's grand, Mr. Robbins, just grand, I'd love to do it.....See, Jerry, I will be able to stay on here after all.

JERRY: Gosh, that's swell, Mary.....Thanks, Jim, you sure fixed things up swell.

JIM: Shucks, don't thank me. It's A. Perkins, and the school board and all. They're the ones who're making this possible. It didn't take 'em long to see that settin' up a juvenile court in our town was like lockin' the barn after the horse was stolen.

BESS: Yes, and bless them, too. I know we all realize in our hearts that our children here at home need help in getting through this war unscarred; and that our children face enemies here that can be just as cruel in the long run as those our fighting men face abroad.

MUSICAL FINALE

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TERRY: Gosh, that's swell, Mary.....Thanks, Jim, you sure fixed things up swell.

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MUSICAL FINALE

ANNOUNCER: Folks, today's story of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers has a real-life parallel in Bridal Veil, Oregon, where the operators of the lumber company have employed a school teacher to direct the summer activities of their workers' children. With the cooperation of the Mount Hood National Forest, a fine forest recreation area has been made available, and now the mothers can stay on their vital war jobs and still work secure in the knowledge that their youngsters are being well taken care of..... This has been a network presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.....

(BERGOFFEN)

TH/3:10/7-13-43